GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services - Registration and Stamps - Surprise check conducted by the Anti-Corruption Bureau Officials over the Office of District Registrar, Registration & Stamps, Kurnool on 27.02.2007 - Departmental action Initiated against Sri M.V.Ramana Murthy, former District Registrar, Registration & Stamps, Kurnool (now Retd.) - Inquiry conducted - Charges Proved - Imposed the Penalty of 50% cut in pension for a period of ten years – Modification of penalty as 10% cut in pension for a period of Five (5) years – Orders - Issued.

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REVENUE (VIGILANCE.II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.RT.No. 1209 **Dated: 09-10-2025**

Read the following:

1. From DG, ACB, Lr.No.05/DES-KUR/07, dt.31-07-2007 & 7-05-2008.
2. Charge Memo No.Vig.2/31-3/2007, dt.07.05.2008.
3. WSD of Sri M.V. Ramana Murthy, DR (now Retd), dt. 05-06-2008.
4. G.O.Rt.No.991, Revenue (Vig.VI) Dept., dt: 19.07.2010.
5. From the DIG, R&S, Kurnool, Lr.No.A/517/2008, dt.07-01-2011.
6. Govt. Memo No.26463/Vig.VI(1)/2007-7, dt.18.10.2013.
7. Interim orders dt.06-03-2014 of Hon'ble APAT in OA No.1679/2014 filed by Sri M.V. Ramana Murthy, DR (now Retd).
8. Orders dated 26-10-2016 of Hon'ble APAT in OA No.1679/2014 filed by Sri M.V.Ramana Murthy, DR (now Retd).
9. Rep.dt.01-02-2017 of Sri M.V.Ramana Murthy, DR (now Retd).
10. Govt.Lr.No.26463/Vig.VI(1)/07-32, Rev. (Vig.II) Dept, dt.26.7.17.
11. From Secretary, APPSC, Hyd., Lr.No.643/DC&C/1/17, dt. 17-08-17.
12. G.O.Rt.No.999, Revenue (Vig.II) Department, dated 26.09.2017.
13. Orders of the Hon’ble High Court in W.P. (AT) No.1935 of 2021, dated 06.05.2025.

ORDER:

Whereas, it was brought to the notice of the Government that during the Surprise Check conducted by the Anti Corruption Bureau over the Office of District Registrar, Registration & Stamps, Kurnool on 27-02-2007 certain irregularities were noticed and recommended to initiate disciplinary action against certain Charged Officers, vide reference 1st read above. Sri M.V.Ramana Murthy, former District Registrar, Registration & Stamps, Kurnool is one of Charged Officer against whom certain irregularities were noticed. Accordingly, as per the instructions issued by the Government, the Commissioner & Inspector General, Registration & Stamps has framed the following article of charges against Sri M.V.Ramana Murthy, former District Registrar, Registration & Stamps, Kurnool, vide reference 2nd read above:

Charge-1:

Charged Officer failed to declare Rs.35,000/- found in his possession on 27-02-2007 (on the day of surprise check) in personal cash declaration register.

Charge-II:

Charged Officer failed to sign in attendance register from 29-01-2007 to 27-02-2007.

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2. Whereas, Sri M.V.Ramana Murthy, former District Registrar, Registration & Stamps, Kurnool has submitted his Written Statement of Defence denying the charges, vide reference 3rd read above. As the same is not convincing, the Government have ordered a common enquiry against all the Charged Officers and appointed a Regular Enquiry Officer, vide reference 4th read above. The Inquiry Officer has submitted the Inquiry Report in respect of Sri M.V. Ramana Murthy, former District Registrar, Registration & Stamps, Kurnool vide reference 5th read above, wherein he held both the charges framed against him as proved. Since the Charged Officer had retired from service on 30-04-2008 on superannuation, the Government after examining the findings of the Inquiry Authority have provisionally decided to impose a penalty of 50% cut in pension permanently against Sri M.V.Ramana Murthy, former District Registrar, Registration & Stamps, Kurnool. Accordingly, a Show Cause Notice was issued to the Charged Officer, under Andhra Pradesh Revised Pension Rules, 1980, with a direction to submit his representation if any, vide reference 6th read above.

3. And Whereas, the Charged Officer without submitting representation to the Show Cause Notice has filed OA No.1679/2014. The Hon'ble Andhra Pradesh Administrative Tribunal, vide reference 7th read above, has passed interim orders directing the respondents not to take action on the Show Cause Notice issued to the charged Officer. The Hon'ble Tribunal has finally disposed the OA and directed the Charged Officer to submit application to the Show Cause Notice and also directed the disciplinary authority to pass appropriate orders on the representation submitted by the Charged Officer, vide reference 8th read above.

4. Whereas, the Charged Officer has submitted representation, vide reference 9th read above and with regard to charge-l, i.e., non declaration of personal cash in the personal cash declaration register, the Charged Officer has submitted that as on the date of surprise check, i.e. 27.2.2007 there are no specific instructions that the District Registrars also should enter the cash in the personal cash declaration register. The specific instructions that the District Registrar shall also declare their personal cash on hand in the personal cash declaration register were Issued only on 19-05-2007, i.e., after the date of surprise check on 27-02-2007. Further submitted that he carried the cash of Rs.35,090/- to repay the loan instalment of Rs.19,346/- due to the Andhra Bank and to pay Rs.15,107/- towards income tax. With regard to charge-II, the Charged Officer has submitted that he being the Head of the District, has jurisdiction over 21 Sub-Registrar Offices and conducts tours and spot inspections to supervise the work. He has further stated that not signing in the attendance register by him, he neither intentionally nor negligent, and hence requested to drop further action against him.

5. The matter has been examined in detail keeping in view that the Charged Officer had already completed retirement of 10 years and get normal pension for post 10 years, the Government have decided to modify the punishment proposed against Sri M.V. Ramana Murthy, former District Registrar, Registration & Stamps, Kurnool (Retied) from 50% cut in pension permanently to that of 50% cut in pension for a period of ten (10) years. Accordingly, the concurrence of the Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission has also been obtained in the reference 11th read above.

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6. Accordingly, Government have imposed a penalty of 50% cut in pension for a period of 10 years against Sri M.V.Ramana Murthy, former District Registrar, Registration & Stamps, Kurnool (Retied) for the irregularity noticed against him vide reference 12th read above.

7. Aggrieved by the above, Sri M.V.Ramana Murthy, former District Registrar, Registration & Stamps, Kurnool (Retied) has filed OA in APAT and same was transferred to Hon'ble High Court after abolition of APAT. Subsequently, the Hon'ble High Court has passed orders dated 06.05.2025 in W.P. (AT) No.1935 of 2021 and the order reads as follows:

> "Coming to the degree of punishment, as observed above, the explanation offered by the petitioner can be considered to mitigate the punishment but not to avoid the same. Vide the impugned proceedings, 50% of the pension cut was imposed for a period of ten (10) years. This is on high side when compared to the amount involved in the case and absence of any other actions of corruption etc., or making such allegations initially and also as the other similarly situated Registrars used not to disclose the cash under the impression that previous circular did not require the Registrars to disclose the cash, the quantum of punishment can be reduced from 50% for ten years to 10% for five (5) years. Therefore, except to the extent of penalty imposed, the rest of the impugned order is sustainable.
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> Accordingly, the Writ Petition is allowed modifying the penalty as indicated above."

8. In compliance with the orders of the Hon'ble High Court in W.P. (AT) No.1935 of 2021, and upon thorough examination of the entire matter, the Government has decided to revise the penalty imposed on Sri M.V. Ramana Murthy, former District Registrar, Registration & Stamps, Kurnool (Retired). Accordingly, the earlier penalty of a 50% reduction in pension for a period of ten (10) years is hereby modified to a 10% reduction in pension for a period of five (5) years.

9. Accordingly, the Government hereby orders the modification of the penalty imposed on Sri M.V. Ramana Murthy, former District Registrar, Registration & Stamps, Kurnool (Retired), revising it from a 50% cut in pension for a period of ten (10) years to a 10% cut in pension for a period of five (5) years.

10. The Commissioner and Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Andhra Pradesh, Tadepalli shall take necessary further action in the matter, accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

G JAYA LAKSHMI
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
Sri M.V.Ramana Murthy, former District Registrar, Registration & Stamps, Kurnool (now Retied) through the Commissioner and Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Andhra Pradesh, Tadepalli (with a request to serve the G.O on the individual and send the served copy with dated signature to the Government)
The Commissioner and Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Andhra Pradesh, Tadepalli.

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The Govt. Pleader, Services-I, AP High Court with a request to appraise the matter to Hon'ble APHC.

Copy to:

The Secretary to Vigilance Commissioner, Andhra Pradesh, Vigilance Commission, Secretariat Building No.5, Velagapudi, Guntur District.

The Director General, Anti-Corruption Bureau, Andhra Pradesh, Pandit Nehru Bus Station, NTR Administrative Block, 2nd Floor, Vijayawada, Krishna District.

The Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission, Vijayawada.

The Accountant General, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada.

The Director, Treasuries & Accounts, Andhra Pradesh, Magalagiri.

The Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Kurnool.

SF/SC.

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER